

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 139902

EXDIS, TOSEC 122

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS.PFOR, NATO, IT

SUBJECT: REINFORCED NAC

FOR SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN FROM STABLER

1. DUCCI HAS TOLD EMBASSY ROME THAT THE ITALIANS BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR EC NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS TO JOIN NATO PERMREPS IN NAC SESSION JULY 4, WHEN SECRETARY PLANS TO GIVE BRIEFING ON THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION. IN ITALIAN VIEW, THIS KIND OF REINFORCED NAC WOULD UNDERSCORE THE NEW SPIRIT OF ALLIANCE CONSULTATION AND "PROVIDE A MORE DIRECT INPUT ON THE SECRETARY'S THINKING IN VARIOUS FOREIGN MINISTRIES." DUCCI ADDED THAT ITALIANS DO NOT REPEAT NOT FAVOR A REINFORCED NAC MEETING IN MID-JULY. THEY THINK IT WOULD BE MORE USEFUL TO HOLD SUCH A SESSION ABOUT THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER, BEFORE WORK ON CSCE AND MBFR, IN THEIR VIEW, MAY RESUME IN THE FALL.

2. WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD WELCOME DUCCI'S SUGGESTION FOR REINFORCING THE JULY 4 NAC SESSION FOR REASONS HE HAS
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CITED. WE ALSO BELIEVE ACCEPTANCE OF HIS SUGGESTION COULD PROVIDE A USEFUL, PROMPT FOLLOW-UP TO OTTAWA NATO MINISTERIAL EMPHASIS ON STRENGTHENING NAC CONSULTATIONS. REGARDING POSTPONEMENT OF REINFORCED NAC MEETING TO EARLY SEPTEMBER, UNLESS YOU ENVISAGE ISSUES DERIVING FROM MOSCOW

SUMMIT THAT WILL WARRANT REINFORCED NAC BEFORE THEN, WE WOULD RECOMMEND NOT PRESSING FOR SUCH A GATHERING IN JULY, SINCE WE WOULD EXPECT MOST ALLIES TO JOIN THE ITALIANS IN FAVORING A LATER DATE.

3. ACCORDINGLY, IF YOU AGREE, WE WOULD ASK EMBASSY ROME TO REPLY AFFIRMATIVELY TO DUCCI'S SUGGESTION, COMMENDING THE ITALIANS FOR THEIR INITIATIVE AND REQUESTING THAT THEY RAISE THIS ISSUE FORMALLY IN THE NAC. WE WOULD ALSO INSTRUCT RUMSFELD TO DISCUSS ITALIAN PROPOSAL WITH SYG LUNS, ITALIAN DELEGATION AND OTHERS IN ORDER TO SET THE WHEELS IN MOTION FOR REINFORCING THE JULY 4 NAC SESSION.

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